



Monthly Wholesale Trade

Sales and Inventories

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

March 1996

BW/96-3
Issued May 1996

Sales. March 1996 sales of merchant wholesalers, after adjustment for seasonal variation and trading-day differences but not for price changes, were \$194.9 billion, up 0.4 (± 0.6) percent from the revised February level and were 6.0 (± 1.3) percent above March 1995. The February preliminary estimate was revised downward by \$0.3 billion or 0.2 percent. March sales of durable goods were up 0.1 (± 0.9) percent from February and were 4.5 percent above last March. Compared to last month, sales of electrical goods increased 3.8 percent to \$15.6 billion, while sales of metals and minerals, except petroleum, declined 6.7 percent to \$7.7 billion. Among nondurable goods, sales of apparel, piece goods and notions were up 6.5 percent from February to \$6.1 billion. Sales of petroleum and petroleum products rose 3.7 percent from last month to \$14.7 billion.

Inventories. Total inventories of merchant wholesalers, after adjustment for seasonal variation but not for price changes, were \$255.3 billion at the end of March, down 0.1

(± 0.3) percent from the revised February level but 5.0 (± 0.9) percent above March 1995. The February preliminary estimate was revised downward by \$0.2 billion or 0.1 percent. End-of-month inventories of durable goods wholesalers were down 0.4 (± 0.6) percent from February but were 4.7 (± 1.6) percent higher than last March. Inventories of motor vehicles and automotive equipment declined 3.0 percent from February to \$26.8 billion. Among nondurable goods wholesalers, inventories of groceries and related products were up 2.2 percent in March to \$16.9 billion, and drugs, drug proprietaries and druggists' sundries increased 1.9 percent from the previous month to \$13.2 billion.

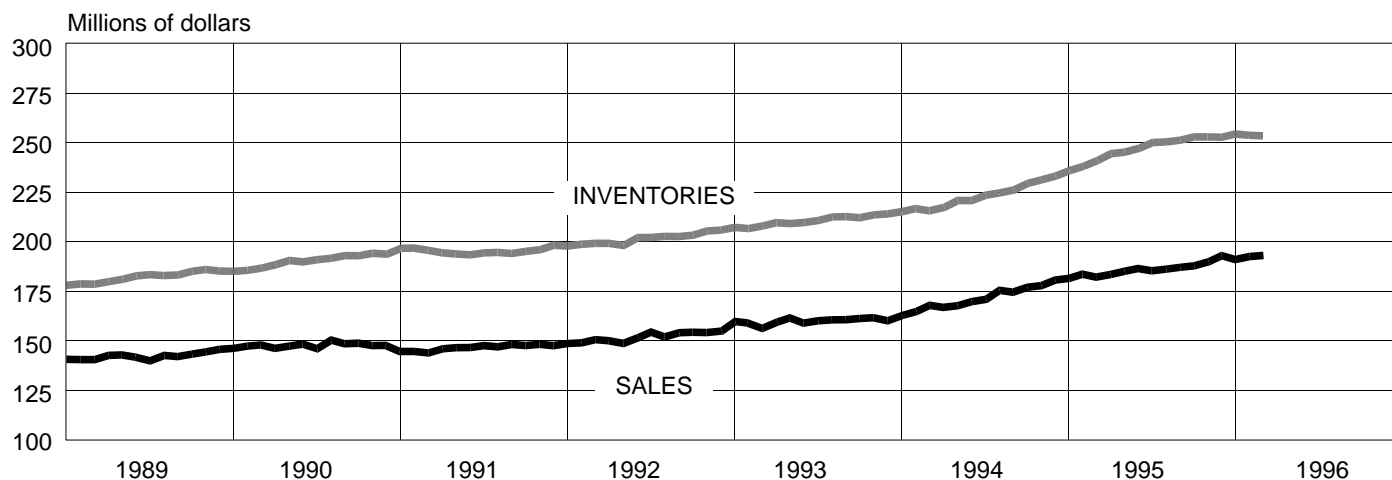
Stock/Sales Ratio. The March stock/sales ratio for merchant wholesalers, based on seasonally adjusted data, was 1.31.

Data in this report are based on a sample and, therefore, are subject to sampling and nonsampling variability. A discussion of the reliability of the data and general survey methodology appears in BW/95-RV Current Business Report.

Figure 1.

Monthly Sales and Inventories of Merchant Wholesalers: 1989 to 1996

(Seasonally adjusted)



Monthly Wholesale Trade for April is scheduled to be released June 7, 1996, at 10:00 a.m.

Address inquiries concerning this report to Services Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233, or call Ronald Pienckoski, Telephone 301-457-2779 or 457-2764.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

This report is available on day of issue through the Department of Commerce's online Economic Bulletin Board (N-8-1)(202-482-3870) and through the Census Bureau's online information service - CENDATA™. Further information about accessing CENDATA™ can be obtained from Dialog Information Services, Inc. (1-800-334-2564) and CompuServe (1-800-848-8199). The CENDATA™ staff at the Bureau of the Census (301-457-1214) can provide content information and general guidance.

Table 1. Estimated Monthly Sales, Inventories, and Stock/Sales Ratios of Merchant Wholesalers: 1996 and 1995

[In millions of dollars]

SIC code	Kind of business	Seasonally adjusted ¹						Not seasonally adjusted						
		Monthly			Percent change			Monthly			Percent change		Year-to-date	
		Mar. ^P 1996	Feb. 1996	Mar. ^I 1995	Mar./ Feb.	Feb./ Jan.	Mar.96/ Mar.95	Mar. ^P 1996	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1995	Mar./ Feb.	Mar.96/ Mar.95	1996	1995
	Sales, Total	194,907	194,053	183,828	.4	.6	6.0	196,886	184,082	194,626	7.0	1.2	566,981	535,267
50	Durable goods	100,594	100,493	96,293	.1	.8	4.5	102,738	94,256	102,587	9.0	.1	290,853	277,803
501	Motor vehicles & auto. equip.	17,106	17,161	16,394	−.3	−1.0	4.3	17,995	16,234	17,951	10.8	.2	50,073	47,232
502	Furniture & home furnishings	3,280	3,342	3,418	−1.9	2.5	−4.0	3,316	3,108	3,623	6.7	−8.5	9,328	9,407
503	Lumber & other construction mat.	6,464	6,494	6,369	−.5	2.2	1.5	6,406	5,669	6,560	13.0	−2.3	17,695	17,600
504	Professional and commercial equipment and supplies	17,801	17,607	15,243	1.1	4.3	16.8	18,620	16,779	16,615	11.0	12.1	52,307	44,980
505	Metals & minerals, ex. petroleum	7,664	8,215	8,514	−6.7	−.3	−10.0	8,032	7,960	9,323	.9	−13.8	24,153	25,416
506	Electrical goods	15,602	15,028	13,912	3.8	−.4	12.1	15,680	14,141	14,538	10.9	7.9	44,029	40,055
507	Hardware, plumbing & heating equipment	5,678	5,717	5,718	−.7	−2.7	−.7	5,303	5,197	5,575	2.0	−4.9	15,794	15,494
508	Machinery, equip. & supplies	15,358	15,292	14,973	.4	−1.0	2.6	15,896	14,497	16,321	9.7	−2.6	45,053	43,758
509	Miscellaneous durable goods	11,641	11,637	11,752	.0	3.3	−.9	11,490	10,671	12,081	7.7	−4.9	32,421	33,861
51	Nondurable goods	94,313	93,560	87,535	.8	.4	7.7	94,148	89,826	92,039	4.8	2.3	276,128	257,464
511	Paper & paper products	6,844	6,777	6,724	1.0	2.1	1.8	6,803	6,574	7,040	3.5	−3.4	20,202	19,699
512	Drugs, drug proprietaries and druggists' sundries	8,098	8,062	7,669	.4	.2	5.6	7,847	7,723	7,991	1.6	−1.8	24,237	22,503
513	Apparel, piece goods & notions	6,126	5,754	5,795	6.5	1.2	5.7	6,653	5,978	6,543	11.3	1.7	17,839	17,917
514	Groceries & related products	25,840	25,869	24,492	−.1	.3	5.5	25,582	24,291	25,276	5.3	1.2	75,328	71,238
515	Farm-product raw materials	10,159	10,129	8,823	.3	−1.8	15.1	10,565	10,291	9,829	2.7	7.5	32,488	28,562
516	Chemicals & allied products	4,068	4,054	3,751	.3	−.7	8.5	4,178	3,985	4,047	4.8	3.2	12,181	11,313
517	Petroleum & petroleum products	14,672	14,153	12,450	3.7	2.4	17.8	14,232	13,771	12,674	3.3	12.3	42,173	37,120
518	Beer, wine, & distilled beverages	4,734	4,747	4,337	−.3	.7	9.2	4,351	4,011	4,376	8.5	−.6	12,095	11,398
519	Misc. nondurable goods	13,772	14,015	13,494	−1.7	−.2	2.1	13,937	13,202	14,263	5.6	−2.3	39,585	37,714
	Inventories, Total	255,297	255,569	243,169	−.1	−.3	5.0	255,980	259,770	243,897	−1.5	5.0	(X)	(X)
50	Durable goods	162,057	162,637	154,853	−.4	−.3	4.7	161,018	163,100	154,094	−1.3	4.5	(X)	(X)
501	Motor vehicles & auto. equip.	26,839	27,665	27,282	−3.0	.6	−1.6	26,678	28,993	27,227	−8.0	−2.0	(X)	(X)
502	Furniture & home furnishings	5,037	5,007	5,007	.6	1.5	.6	5,057	4,957	5,022	2.0	.7	(X)	(X)
503	Lumber & other construction mat.	7,592	7,614	7,477	−.3	.3	1.5	7,994	7,728	7,873	3.4	1.5	(X)	(X)
504	Professional and commercial equipment and supplies	22,864	22,746	21,279	.5	−.8	7.4	22,841	22,473	21,258	1.6	7.4	(X)	(X)
505	Metals & minerals, ex. petroleum	12,523	12,707	13,304	−1.4	−.7	−5.9	12,561	12,529	13,344	.3	−5.9	(X)	(X)
506	Electrical goods	24,184	23,922	21,028	1.1	−.6	15.0	23,483	23,778	20,439	−1.2	14.9	(X)	(X)
507	Hardware, plumbing & heating equipment	11,238	11,228	11,109	.1	.2	1.2	11,350	11,228	11,210	1.1	1.2	(X)	(X)
508	Machinery, equip. & supplies	35,505	35,281	32,338	.6	−.3	9.8	35,576	35,457	32,435	.3	9.7	(X)	(X)
509	Miscellaneous durable goods	16,275	16,467	16,029	−1.2	−1.3	1.5	15,478	15,957	15,276	−3.0	1.3	(X)	(X)
51	Nondurable goods	93,240	92,932	88,316	.3	−.3	5.6	94,962	96,670	89,803	−1.8	5.7	(X)	(X)
511	Paper & paper products	8,503	8,462	7,519	.5	−1.0	13.1	8,554	8,487	7,564	.8	13.1	(X)	(X)
512	Drugs, drug proprietaries and druggists' sundries	13,199	12,948	12,278	1.9	.9	7.5	13,107	13,427	12,204	−2.4	7.4	(X)	(X)
513	Apparel, piece goods & notions	11,803	12,171	12,689	−3.0	.9	−7.0	11,496	12,256	12,384	−6.2	−7.2	(X)	(X)
514	Groceries & related products	16,915	16,552	16,012	2.2	.6	5.6	16,780	16,171	15,852	3.8	5.9	(X)	(X)
515	Farm-product raw materials	11,610	11,613	10,267	.0	−2.3	13.1	13,119	14,446	11,602	−9.2	13.1	(X)	(X)
516	Chemicals & allied products	4,712	4,690	4,346	.5	.9	8.4	4,778	4,765	4,416	.3	8.2	(X)	(X)
517	Petroleum & petroleum products	5,166	5,058	5,124	2.1	−.3	.8	4,928	4,896	4,873	.7	1.1	(X)	(X)
518	Beer, wine, & distilled beverages	4,630	4,543	4,517	1.9	.6	2.5	4,579	4,398	4,472	4.1	2.4	(X)	(X)
519	Misc. nondurable goods	16,702	16,895	15,564	−1.1	−1.5	7.3	17,621	17,824	16,436	−1.1	7.2	(X)	(X)
	Stock/sales ratios, Total	1.31	1.32	1.32	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.30	1.41	1.25	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
50	Durable goods	1.61	1.62	1.61	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.57	1.73	1.50	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
501	Motor vehicles & auto. equip.	1.57	1.61	1.66	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.48	1.79	1.52	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
502	Furniture & home furnishings	1.54	1.50	1.46	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.53	1.59	1.39	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
503	Lumber & other construction mat.	1.17	1.17	1.17	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.25	1.36	1.20	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
504	Professional and commercial equipment and supplies	1.28	1.29	1.40	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.23	1.34	1.28	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
505	Metals & minerals, ex. petroleum	1.63	1.55	1.56	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.56	1.57	1.43	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
506	Electrical goods	1.55	1.59	1.51	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.50	1.68	1.41	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
507	Hardware, plumbing & heating equipment	1.98	1.96	1.94	(X)	(X)	(X)	2.14	2.16	2.01	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
508	Machinery, equip. & supplies	2.31	2.31	2.16	(X)	(X)	(X)	2.24	2.45	1.99	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
509	Miscellaneous durable goods	1.40	1.42	1.36	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.35	1.50	1.26	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
51	Nondurable goods . . . . .	.99	.99	1.01	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.01	1.08	.98	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
511	Paper & paper products	1.24	1.25	1.12	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.26	1.29	1.07	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
512	Drugs, drug proprietaries and druggists' sundries	1.63	1.61	1.60	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.67	1.74	1.53	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
513	Apparel, piece goods & notions	1.93	2.12	2.19	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.73	2.05	1.89	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
514	Groceries & related products . . . . .	.65	.64	.65	(X)	(X)	(X)	.66	.67	.63	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
515	Farm-product raw materials	1.14	1.15	1.16	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.24	1.40	1.18	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
516	Chemicals & allied products	1.16	1.16	1.16	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.14	1.20	1.09	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
517	Petroleum & petroleum products . . . . .	.35	.36	.41	(X)	(X)	(X)	.35	.36	.38	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
518	Beer, wine, & distilled beverages . . . . .	.98	.96	1.04	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.05	1.10	1.02	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
519	Misc. nondurable goods	1.21	1.21	1.15	(X)	(X)	(X)	1.26	1.35	1.15	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)

^PPreliminary estimate. ^TRevised. (X) Cumulative data are not applicable for inventories or stock/sales ratios, cumulative seasonally adjusted sales estimates are not tabulated.

¹Data adjusted for seasonal variations and, in the case of sales, also for trading-day differences. See table 3 for seasonal adjustment factors used.

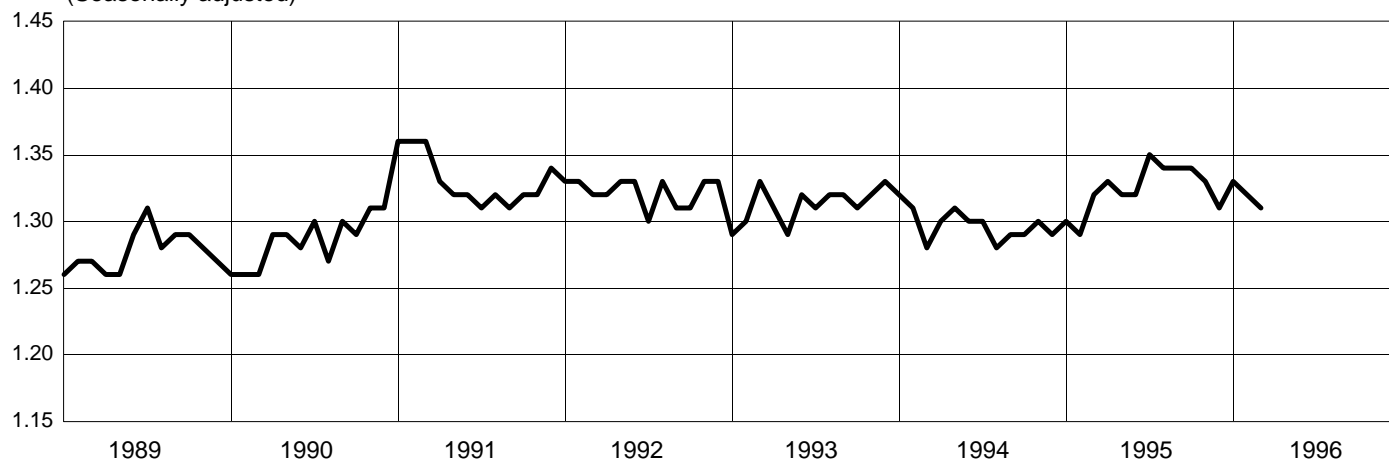
Table 2. Coefficients of Variation of Sales and Inventories
[In percent]

SIC code	Kind of business	Preliminary estimates		Final estimates		Ratio of 2 consecutive months		Year-to-year estimates		Cumulative sales estimates		Current year cumulative to previous year cumulative
		Range	Median	Range	Median	Range	Median	Range	Median	CY	PY	
	Sales, Total	1.1-1.6	1.4	1.2-1.6	1.4	0.3-0.7	0.4	0.6-1.0	0.8	1.2	1.4	0.6
50	Durable goods	1.8-2.3	2.0	1.9-2.2	2.1	0.4-1.2	0.7	0.9-1.5	1.2	1.9	2.0	1.1
501	Motor vehicles & auto. equip.	3.0-6.8	3.5	3.2-5.7	3.4	0.7-4.0	1.7	1.7-5.8	2.5	3.3	2.6	1.5
502	Furniture & home furnishings	10.1-13.5	12.8	11.0-13.1	11.4	1.8-4.0	2.6	2.2-5.8	3.7	12.3	12.3	2.6
503	Lumber & other construction mat.	3.3-6.0	4.1	2.9-4.7	3.6	0.9-2.9	1.2	2.0-3.8	2.6	4.3	3.9	2.0
504	Professional and commercial equipment and supplies	4.8-7.9	6.2	5.1-6.9	6.1	1.2-2.5	1.7	2.5-5.7	3.7	6.6	7.5	4.4
505	Metals & minerals, ex. petroleum	3.7-4.2	4.0	3.8-4.3	4.0	1.0-2.3	1.4	1.3-2.7	1.8	3.8	4.4	1.6
506	Electrical goods	3.6-4.9	4.6	3.2-4.6	4.0	1.3-2.5	1.7	2.2-4.0	2.9	4.5	3.0	2.8
507	Hardware, plumbing & heating equipment	4.1-6.2	4.8	4.1-5.0	4.3	1.4-6.8	1.6	2.3-4.5	3.1	4.3	4.2	2.1
508	Machinery, equip. & supplies	4.7-6.9	6.3	4.8-6.8	6.3	1.5-3.9	2.1	2.6-4.8	3.4	4.8	4.9	3.5
509	Miscellaneous durable goods	5.1-7.3	6.6	4.9-6.8	5.5	2.5-4.8	2.8	4.7-7.1	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.9
51	Nondurable goods	1.9-2.3	2.2	1.9-2.1	2.0	0.5-0.6	0.5	0.8-1.8	1.3	2.1	1.7	1.3
511	Paper & paper products	4.2-5.3	4.3	4.4-5.1	4.5	0.8-2.3	1.5	1.5-3.3	2.2	4.3	5.5	1.8
512	Drugs, drug proprietaries and druggists' sundries	7.0-8.1	7.5	7.1-8.0	7.6	0.6-2.0	1.3	1.4-3.2	2.6	7.3	6.9	2.0
513	Apparel, piece goods & notions	4.3-8.5	5.8	2.5-8.5	4.1	1.2-6.0	2.4	3.1-6.7	4.8	5.5	4.5	3.9
514	Groceries & related products	3.2-4.2	3.9	3.1-4.0	3.7	0.7-1.3	0.9	2.1-2.9	2.4	3.6	3.4	2.1
515	Farm-product raw materials	3.6-4.9	4.3	3.7-5.1	4.4	1.8-3.7	2.3	3.2-4.5	3.6	3.8	3.5	2.9
516	Chemicals & allied products	4.8-8.5	6.6	4.8-7.6	6.0	1.4-5.3	2.1	2.9-8.5	5.2	5.8	4.8	4.9
517	Petroleum & petroleum products	6.5-7.9	7.0	6.0-8.1	6.9	0.8-1.7	1.0	1.7-3.2	2.7	7.1	5.3	2.5
518	Beer, wine, & distilled beverages	6.3-7.5	6.9	6.3-7.3	7.0	1.3-3.7	2.0	2.0-3.6	2.5	6.4	6.3	1.7
519	Misc. nondurable goods	5.7-8.3	6.7	5.8-7.4	6.8	1.1-3.3	1.9	2.9-5.1	4.8	5.8	8.6	4.0
	Inventories, Total	1.5-1.8	1.6	1.5-1.8	1.7	0.2-0.4	0.3	0.5-0.8	0.7	(X)	(X)	(X)
50	Durable goods	2.3-2.5	2.4	2.2-2.6	2.4	0.3-0.5	0.4	0.7-1.0	0.9	(X)	(X)	(X)
501	Motor vehicles & auto. equip.	3.8-5.0	4.2	3.7-4.6	4.4	0.8-1.5	1.0	1.4-2.8	2.4	(X)	(X)	(X)
502	Furniture & home furnishings	8.6-10.5	10.1	9.1-10.9	10.1	0.8-1.3	1.1	2.3-3.8	2.8	(X)	(X)	(X)
503	Lumber & other construction mat.	4.6-6.1	4.9	4.8-6.2	4.9	0.4-0.9	0.6	1.4-2.3	1.7	(X)	(X)	(X)
504	Professional and commercial equipment and supplies	5.2-6.8	5.8	5.1-6.5	5.9	0.5-1.2	0.9	2.1-2.9	2.5	(X)	(X)	(X)
505	Metals & minerals, ex. petroleum	6.0-6.6	6.3	6.0-6.7	6.5	0.6-1.2	0.9	1.6-3.7	2.4	(X)	(X)	(X)
506	Electrical goods	3.5-4.4	4.0	3.7-4.3	4.0	0.4-1.0	0.7	1.1-3.1	1.5	(X)	(X)	(X)
507	Hardware, plumbing & heating equipment	4.3-4.7	4.6	4.2-4.6	4.5	0.4-0.9	0.7	1.7-3.4	2.7	(X)	(X)	(X)
508	Machinery, equip. & supplies	3.9-4.8	4.1	3.9-4.5	4.1	0.6-1.3	0.9	1.7-2.6	2.0	(X)	(X)	(X)
509	Miscellaneous durable goods	4.8-6.8	5.4	4.3-6.7	5.4	0.4-1.7	1.1	2.1-4.4	3.6	(X)	(X)	(X)
51	Nondurable goods	1.9-2.4	2.0	1.9-2.5	2.2	0.2-0.6	0.4	0.8-1.1	1.0	(X)	(X)	(X)
511	Paper & paper products	3.8-4.8	4.2	3.7-4.6	4.1	0.2-0.5	0.4	1.0-2.9	1.7	(X)	(X)	(X)
512	Drugs, drug proprietaries and druggists' sundries	8.1-9.5	8.7	8.3-9.4	9.1	0.6-1.7	0.7	1.1-3.1	2.2	(X)	(X)	(X)
513	Apparel, piece goods & notions	5.5-7.5	6.5	5.3-7.3	6.4	0.6-1.9	1.2	2.8-4.6	3.4	(X)	(X)	(X)
514	Groceries & related products	4.6-5.9	5.5	4.6-6.4	5.3	0.6-1.8	0.9	1.8-3.7	2.6	(X)	(X)	(X)
515	Farm-product raw materials	3.1-4.3	3.7	2.9-3.8	3.4	0.8-2.9	1.5	2.2-4.7	3.2	(X)	(X)	(X)
516	Chemicals & allied products	5.8-7.9	6.5	5.6-7.6	6.3	0.7-1.8	1.1	3.0-5.4	3.6	(X)	(X)	(X)
517	Petroleum & petroleum products	1.9-2.5	2.4	1.5-2.3	1.8	0.4-1.6	1.2	1.9-2.4	2.2	(X)	(X)	(X)
518	Beer, wine, & distilled beverages	4.9-5.8	5.2	5.1-5.7	5.2	0.9-1.4	1.2	1.7-2.6	2.1	(X)	(X)	(X)
519	Misc. nondurable goods	5.1-6.3	5.5	4.9-5.9	5.6	0.6-1.2	0.9	1.7-3.4	2.4	(X)	(X)	(X)

(X) Not applicable

Note: Coefficients of variation are based on data unadjusted for seasonal variations or trading-day differences. The range and median coefficients of variation are based on the most recent 6 months of data.

Figure 2.
Monthly Stock/Sales Ratios of Merchant Wholesalers: 1989 to 1996
(Seasonally adjusted)



Official Business
Penalty for Private Use, \$300

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
PERMIT No. G-58

As calculated for this report, the coefficient of variation estimates sampling variation but does not measure all nonsampling error in the data. Nonsampling error consists of both a variance component and a bias component. Bias is the difference, averaged over all possible samples of the same size and design, between the estimate and the true value being estimated. Nonsampling errors are usually attributed to many possible sources: (1) coverage error (failure to accurately represent all population units in the sample), (2) inability to obtain information about all sample cases, (3) response errors, possibly due to definitional difficulties or misreporting, (4) mistakes in recording or coding the data obtained, and (5) other errors of coverage, collection and nonresponse, response, processing, or imputing for missing or inconsistent data. These nonsampling errors also occur in complete censuses. Although no direct

measures of these errors have been obtained, precautionary steps were taken in all phases of the collection, processing, and tabulation of the data to minimize their influence.

Coverage error has an effect on the accuracy of estimates for this survey to the extent that the administrative records system, which forms the basis of our survey universe frame, does not contain all legal businesses.

A major source of nonsampling error in the published estimates is due to the need to impute data for nonrespondents and for late and inconsistent reports. For all kinds of businesses combined, imputed sales amount to about 26 percent of the total monthly wholesale sales estimates and 28 percent of the total monthly wholesale inventory estimates.

Table 3. Seasonal Adjustment Factors for Sales and Inventories of Merchant Wholesalers

SIC code	Kind of business	Sales						Inventories					
		1996				1995		1996				1995	
		Apr.	Mar.	Feb. ^f	Jan.	Dec.	Mar. ^f	Apr.	Mar.	Feb. ^f	Jan.	Dec.	Mar. ^f
	Total¹	1.008	1.014	.950	.963	.959	1.062	1.007	1.003	1.016	1.023	1.007	1.004
50	Durable goods	1.007	1.023	.941	.940	.953	1.067	1.007	.996	1.004	.999	.988	.997
501	Motor vehicles & auto. equip.	1.043	1.052	.946	.914	.954	1.095	1.024	.994	1.048	1.017	.990	.998
502	Furniture & home furnishings	1.003	1.011	.930	.891	.947	1.060	.992	1.004	.990	.982	.981	1.003
503	Lumber & other construction mat.	1.039	.991	.873	.884	.842	1.030	1.045	1.053	1.015	.995	.983	1.053
504	Professional and commercial equip- ment and supplies .....	.958	1.046	.953	1.002	1.031	1.090	1.002	.999	.988	1.017	.999	.999
505	Metals & minerals, ex. petroleum	1.031	1.048	.969	.990	.888	1.095	1.010	1.003	.986	1.006	1.011	1.003
506	Electrical goods .....	.969	1.005	.941	.942	.939	1.045	.985	.971	.994	.994	.987	.972
507	Hardware, plumbing & heating equip- ment .....	.993	.934	.909	.901	.911	.975	1.010	1.010	1.000	.982	.987	1.010
508	Machinery, equip. & supplies	1.064	1.035	.948	.949	.956	1.090	1.016	1.002	1.005	.990	.982	1.003
509	Miscellaneous durable goods .....	.944	.987	.917	.911	.993	1.028	.981	.951	.969	.980	.971	.953
51	Nondurable goods	1.013	.999	.960	.987	.967	1.050	1.008	1.018	1.037	1.061	1.038	1.018
511	Paper & paper products .....	.985	.994	.970	1.028	.962	1.047	1.023	1.006	1.003	1.023	1.024	1.006
512	Drugs, drug proprietaries and druggists' sundries	1.022	.969	.958	1.077	.984	1.042	.993	.993	1.037	1.086	1.037	.994
513	Apparel, piece goods & notions .....	.910	1.086	1.039	.916	.788	1.129	.938	.974	1.007	1.038	1.022	.976
514	Groceries & related products	1.002	.990	.939	.987	.991	1.032	.990	.992	.977	1.012	1.030	.990
515	Farm-product raw materials .....	.988	1.040	1.016	1.128	1.009	1.114	1.010	1.130	1.244	1.312	1.226	1.130
516	Chemicals & allied products	1.031	1.027	.983	.984	.898	1.079	1.002	1.014	1.016	.982	.985	1.016
517	Petroleum & petroleum products ....	.999	.970	.973	1.025	.999	1.018	.973	.954	.968	.967	1.017	.951
518	Beer, wine, & distilled beverages	1.016	.919	.845	.792	1.076	1.009	1.007	.989	.968	.948	.928	.990
519	Misc. nondurable goods	1.114	1.012	.942	.886	.951	1.057	1.070	1.055	1.055	1.044	.994	1.056



^fRevised.

¹Adjusted sales and inventory data shown in table 1 are obtained by dividing the unadjusted data by the adjustment factors shown above for the corresponding group. Adjusted data for the totals are obtained by adding the durable and nondurable goods. Seasonal factors shown for the totals will provide an approximation of the adjusted estimates, but may show small differences from the published data.

Note: The seasonal factors shown have been computed based on monthly estimates through the current month preliminary estimates.